

9. (Twice Amended) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 1, wherein the sipe formed in the blocks at said side zones of the tread extends parallel to or substantially parallel to the gently slant groove [opening to the circumferential side groove].

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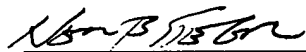
**REMARKS**

This Amendment is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(c) and follows an Advisory Action of June 1, 2000. Claim 1 has been amended to define the other positioning to which chamfering occurs. A redundancy in the claims has been eliminated and is in conformance with the Examiner's requirements. With respect to claims 8 and 9, changes have been made pursuant to the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action of June 1.

Entry of this amendment is thus respectfully requested because, as the Examiner has stated the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, will be withdrawn if such an Amendment is submitted pursuant to the pending Appeal in this case. The Brief was filed on May 3, 2000.

Please charge any fee, except for the Issue Fee, that may be necessary for the continued pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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